

## Message Text

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12

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-03

RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01 RSR-01 /046 W

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R 030601Z AUG 73

FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1440

UNCLAS CANBERRA 4325

FOR EA AMBASSADOR GREEN

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, AS

SUBJ: NEWS SUMMARY FRIDAY, AUGUST 3

1. EDITORIALS AND REPORTS TODAY CONTINUE TO ASSESS CHRYSLER MANAGER MOORE'S STATEMENT ON AUSTRALIAN ECONOMIC SITUATION. OMEGA ALSO IS IN THE NEWS WITH ALL PAPERS GIVING PROMINENT ATTENTION TO HALDEMAN TESTIMONY ON WATERGATE. AUSTRALIAN FRONTPAGE REPORT HEADED "CAIRNS CALLS FOR RECALL OF US CAR CHIEF" QUOTES CAIRNS SAYING "AS FAR AS THE GOVERNMENT IS CONCERNED HE IS NOT A CREDITABLE SPOKESMAN FOR EITHER HIS COMPANY OR THE CAR INDUSTRY AND I WOULD THINK HIS COMPANY IN THE US OUGHT TO REALIZE THIS." AUSTRALIAN CARRIES WHAT IS CALLS AN APOLOGY BY MOORE WHO SAID HE HAD NOT INTENDED TO EMBARASS INDIVIDUALS OR GOVERNMENT. EDITORIAL HEADED "THE RIGHT TO PUT HIS VIEW," SAYS IN REFERENCE TO MOORE, "...WHEN PRICKLY POLITICAL SENSITIVITIES ARE FORGOTTEN IS IT REALLY FAIR THAT HE SHOULD BE ASKED TO FEEL SORRY HE SPOKE?... ALTHOUGH MR. MOORE'S WAS NOT A VERY IMPRESSIVE PERFORMANCE. BUT HE SURELY HAD EVERY RIGHT TO MAKE IT." SYDNEY MORNING HERALD EDITORIAL COMMENTS ON "EXTRAORDINARY ATTACK" BY CAIRNS ON MOORE. ALTHOUGH MANY OF MOORE'S ARGUMENTS INVALID, HIS COMMENTS SHOULD NOT BE STIFLED.

2. SYDNEY MORNING HERALD FEATURE ARTICLE HEADED "CLEARING UNCLASSIFIED

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THE AIR ON OMEGA" SUMMARIZES ARGUMENTS PRO AND CON,

CONCLUDING OMEGA IS NAVIGATIONAL AID VALUABLE TO NUCLEAR SHIPS AND NUCLEAR SUBMARINES ALIKE. AUSTRALIAN REPORTS TRIP TO JAPAN BY ALP LEFT WING EXECUTIVE MEMBER BILL HARTLEY. HE SEEKS INTERNATIONAL SUPPORT AGAINST OMEGA AND DIRECTLY OPPOSES THE PRIME MINISTER ON THIS ISSUE. AGE REPORT HEADED "PM DIFFERS WITH PARTY ON BASES; HARTLEY" CARRIES CRITICISM BY HARTLEY OF WHITLAM STATEMENTS IN US IMPLYING THAT AUSTRALIA IS A HAPPY HOST FOR US BASES. HARTLEY SAYS WHITLAM AT VARIANCE WITH A SUBSTANTIAL AND PERHAPS A MAJORITY OF ALP MEMBERS AND TRADE UNIONISTS.

3. MELBOURNE SUN REPORT HEADED "FORD INDUSTRIAL DICTORSHIP" QUOTES UNION LEADER AT ARBITRATION COMMISSION HEARING SAYING FORD MOTOR COMPANY NOT HUMAN IN ITS EXPLOITATION OF AUSTRALIAN WORKERS.

4. DAILY TELEGRAPH REPORTS WHITLAM STUDYING RECOMMENDATION FROM FOREIGN AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT FOR A TREATY OF FRIENDSHIP AND COOPERATION WITH JAPAN.

5. CANBERRA TIMES (SOLOMON) WRAPS UP PM VISIT TO WASHINGTON. WHITLAM WAS NOT TRYING LIKE HIS PREDECESSORS TO OBTAIN SOME SPECIAL DEAL FOR AUSTRALIA ON EXPORTS OR DEFENSE EQUIPMENT. HE WAS TRYING TO EXPLAIN NEW AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT, TO REESTABLISH CORDIAL RELATIONS, AND TO MAKE CLEAR AUSTRALIA IS INDEPENDENT BUT STILL ALLIED. HE SUCCEEDED VERY WELL AND SCORED DOMESTIC POLITICAL POINTS FOR HIMSELF IN THE PROCESS.  
HARROP

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## Message Attributes

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**Review Authority:** martinml  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 15 OCT 2001  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <15-Oct-2001 by reddocgw>; APPROVED <06-Feb-2002 by martinml>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
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**TAGS:** PFOR, AS  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005